

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 24-29, 32, 35, 38 and 41 are pending in the application, with claims 24-28 being the independent claims. Claims 24-29, 32, 35, 38 and 41 have been amended to clarify the nature of the polynucleotides and polypeptides claimed. Support for the amendments to claims 24, 27 and 28 can be found throughout the specification, *inter alia*, at page 24, line 28 - page 28, line 9. Claims 30-31, 33-34, 36-37, 39-40 and 42-43 have been cancelled. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. In addition, it is believed that these amendments will put the application in condition for allowance or better form for consideration on appeal.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the notification that claims 25, 26, 29, 32-38 and 41 are allowable.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 24, 27-28, 30-31, 39-40 and 42-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,494,806. Applicants have amended claims 24, 27 and 28 to clarify the claimed polynucleotides and polypeptides. Not in acquiescence in the propriety of the rejection, but rather solely to advance prosecution,

Applicants have cancelled claims 30-31, 39-40 and 42-43. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

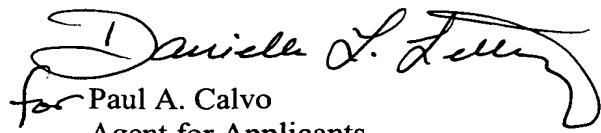
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


for Paul A. Calvo
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 57,913
Reg. No. 56,971

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1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

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